

Wonderful News

FROM

BRISTOL.

A True yet Prodigious Relation how a
Hen on the 3^d of July last, brought into the world a
Kitling or young *Catt*, to the unspeakable Admi-
ration of many people present,
Both the Hen and Cat being still Alive, attested by

Elleanor Holder Widdow

Mary

Joan

Martha

Sarah

} *Holder, her*
Daughters.

{ *Tho. Fisher,*

{ *Tho. Holbrook*

{ *Sarah Holbrook*

All Eye witnesses.

Neighbours



For confirmation whereof, besides an *Affidavit* taken be-
fore an Alderman of *Bristol*, a true copy whereof is here
Annexed, The Original ready to be shewn at the Pub-
lishers Shop in *Sweetings Ally* by the *Royal Exchange*.
The said Publisher does hereby offer 10. Guinies to be
forfeited and paid to any person that shall disprove or
manifest this Relation to be false.

Licensed Aug. 8. 1676. *Roger L'Strange*.

London, Printed for *Benjamin Harris* in *Sweetings Ally* in
Cornhil, near the *Royal Exchange*. 1676.

Wonderful News

BRISTOL

For the purpose of procuring a copy of the world's
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Wonderful News from Bristol, &c,

Amongst all the Monstrous and Præternatural Births, which Ancient Histories, or modern observations, the Collections, of Curious Physitians from former times, or remarks of inquisitive Searchers into Natures Closet in our present Age, have mentioned or produced with any colour of Truth or Probability, what we are going to Recount may deservedly seem the most extraordinary, and unaccountable, nor should we presume to offer it in publique to the Censure of so discerning and captious a Generation as this we Live in (wherein the most obtruse opinions, and received Traditions are equally brought to the rigid Test of demonstrative Reason) were we not infallibly assured of the truth of the thing as to matter of Fact.

That by cursed Sodomitical or Heterogeneous

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Copu-

Copulations there have been brought into the world strange and unthought of Creatures, the products of raging lust, and an Equivocal Passion is an Indubitable Truth; Not to ransack Africk for proof, we read in *Plutarch* that *Ephesus* the Son of *Demoftratus*, having filthily to do with a she-Afs, She at the usual time brought forth a very pretty Girl, and *James Ruff*, an Eminent German Physician in his Treatise *de Conceptu & Generatione* p. 51. Relates, That a Mare in *Switzerland* cover'd by a Bull, Foal'd a Colt (if we may call it so) only with feet like a horse, but the rest of the Body hair and Tail resembling a Cow; And to come nearer home, 'Tis not yet seven years agoe since near *Bromley* in *Kent* a Sow amongst her farrow of Piggs had one in all respects of humane shape which Lived about four and Twenty houres, But that a Creature should bring forth a young one not only of a different species, but disagreeing in the whole kind as Bird and Beast do in our present case, This we conceive no Book, no Experience, no story can parrallel;

But we delay the Readers eager expectation too long-- Take the true and naked narrative of

this

this worder in the same manner it happen'd, as follows.

At *East-Bishford*, in the Parish of *Bedminster* two miles from *Bristol* in the County of *Summerfet*, on *Munday* the third of *July* last past, at the house of one *Eleanor Holder Widdow*, this strange Accident happen'd, being first taken notice of thus, The said widdow and four of her daughters and three neighbours being altogether, on a sudden they heard a cry of a Kissing or young Cat which the woman of the house wondered at because her Cat having Kittend the week before, she or some of her people had caused all the young ones to be drown'd; But this cry continuing, made them look very Diligently about the house, but could not a good while find from whence it proceeded, At last observing it came from under a Dresser *Tho. Holbrook*, a young lad going to look there saw a Hen sitting, and thinking the Cat might be hid behind her, Hu'sht her away, who thereupon comming forth into the Room, one of the maids that owned the Hen, looking upon her, cried out what has this fellow done & he has spoil'd my Hen, see all her Guts are comming out; for so she at first glance apprehended, but when they began to look more near
and

(4)
and earnestly, they found the Cat they had lookt
for and which had made the noise, For behold I to
their great Astonishment the Head of a live kirling
was hanging forth at the Hens fundament, and striv-
ing to get its whole body into the world, the strang-
ness of such a sight invited all the Company (which
as I told you were no fewer than Eight persons, all
whose names you have in the Title page) the no-
velty of the thing I say made them all be very
curious spectators, and before them the Hen went
too and fro in the Room for above half an hour,
seeming to be in great pain and misery, part of the
young Cat hanging forth of her body and crying.
But at last it came wholly from her, not without
all the natural circumstances usually attending
Beasts in bringing forth their young, and particu-
larly it was so fastened to her Body by a Navel-
string that after it was upon the floor the Hen did
thereby for some time drag it after her about the
Room. But at last the said string broke, and
the Hen not at all concerned as to clucking or
showing any kindness to this strange production as they are
wont to do to their chickens, went her way, But though the
thus Abandoned, yet providest and indulgent nature hav-
ing

ing been at such paines to hatch a wonder, took Care it should not now perish for want of a nurse more suitable to its kind than that which brought it forth; And this was the before mentioned Cat belonging to the house, who coming into the Room and retaining the fresh Ideas of those Kittlings shee had lately been bereaved of, As Soon as she saw this, mistakeing it for one of them went hastily to it licking off those Natural Sordities which attended it into the world, and the little one by instinct fell a sucking and to this day continues sucking the same Caras orderly as if it had been her own.

The publisher had lately the young Kittling that the Hen brought forth in his hand, they are both still living, and thrive as well as if the Hen had never had any such Conception, or the Kittling had been produced after the Common way of Generation to its kind;

If any shall decry this Relation as false, because (for-
sooth) their mighty Reason or puleing philosophy cannot Comprehend how it should come to pass, I would before they pronounce too severe a Censure, only desire this Civil favour of them, that they would oblige the world with a rational Account of Magnetic wonders, demonstrate the Causes of the Seas Flux and reflux, shew us particularly how a Tulip or Jilly-flower becomes Invested with such variety of Charming Beauties, give us a demonstration why Grass is green, teach us by What conduct Springs find their Subteranean roads through the bodies of Mass Rocks, and by what means they clamber up to the top of the highest hills, if they cannot be so Immodest as to deny their Ignorance in the reason of these and a thousand the like particulars which yet sense and experience assure them to be
[reall]

reab in Fact, why should their incredulity boggle at this Relation though perhaps not reconcilable with the commonly received rules and method of Generation, verily there is yet a vast *America* in Philosophy undiscovered, and nature perhaps like our modern Gallants, delights now and then to have a frolic, the pleasure of which consists chiefly in the extravagance and unreasonableness of it.

A true Copy of the Affidavit.

These are to certify all whom it may concern, that on the fourth day of August, Anno. Rex. Regis Car. secundi, nunc Regi. Scilicet. *Wilhelmo octavo* Thomas Fisher of Bisford in the County of Somerset Yeoman, came personally before me Ralph Olliffe Esq; one of the Aldermen in the said City, and did then and there voluntarily depose and make oath on the holy Evangelists of God that about the beginning of July, last past, there was a monstrous birth of a young Cat which was brought forth by a Hen in the house of *Eleanor Haulder* widdow in Bisford about two miles distant from Bristol, and did also depose that he was an eye witness to and did see the said Cat about halfe way forth of the Fundament of the said Hen, and that the bringing forth thereof was after the usual manner which beasts bring forth their young having its usual things attending as brute beasts have, since which, the said Cat is still living and is in all respects like unto all other Cats, as the said *Thomas Fisher* hath deposed, in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Witness my hand and seal the day and year first above written.

1676. Given me
Ralph Olliffe.

Thomas Fisher.

1601

FINIS.

